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**From:** "james d" <lumbercls@hotmail.com> [Add to Address Book](#)

**To:** brian.cox13@blueyonder.co.uk

**CC:** dale.farm@btinternet.com, iainguest@starpower.net

**Subject:** Pitsea appeal statements

**Date:** Wed, 20 Feb 2008 13:09:14 -0800

Dear Mr. Cox,

Grattan asked me to send you these statements from those residents of Dale Farm that applied for planning permission at Pitsea. I hope these are the kind of statements you need. Let me know by what date you will need the signed copies and I will post them to you.

I am on site at Dale Farm so if you need any additional statements or any other info from the residents please let me know. Grattan should have the proof of benefits for Kathleen O'Brien. We still haven't got the national insurance number for Nora Sheridan. But her son is working on it and said he should have it by tomorrow noon at the latest.

Sincerely,

James Dasinger  
Intern  
Dale Farm Housing Association  
0793 1830665

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8-003

2007

Prison Waiting List

REPORT

As dictated to James Dasinger, Dale Farm Housing Association

Nora Sheridan:

I am 80 years old. I have cancer, blood pressure problems, and need a walker to move about. I see doctors about once a month at Basildon and Southend hospitals. I am reliant on Home Help. They come out to my caravan and make sure I take my medication and help with cooking and cleaning. I really can't do without them. My son Dan lives with me as well. He has had Down's syndrome since birth and is also reliant on the Home Help.

If we didn't have a settled place to live it would be impossible to cope. My other son has his own family in another caravan and can only tow one caravan at a time, so he couldn't take care of me and Dan and his own family on the road. And my medical problems would be impossible to deal with if we were moving about.

Joanne (Melissa) McCarthy ✓

I am 18 years old and take care of my younger sister Rosemary who is 14 since our parents both died in a caravan fire a few years ago. I am her legal guardian. We have no car and I am unable to drive. If we were evicted, we would have to walk out onto the roadside with nowhere to go. We are reliant on income support and receive medication for depression every two weeks. We wouldn't be able to receive either without a fixed address. We want to stay near where our parents died as it is all we have ever known and we get help from our friends and relatives to get about.

I ask you to please consider how you would feel if your children were alone and had no place to go? How would you want your children to be treated? Would you want them to be left on their own with no support? We need to rely on the people around us and simply couldn't make it on the road. Having nowhere to go on top of losing our parents would ruin our lives and destroy our mental health.

Kathleen O'Brien ✓

I am a single mother with two daughters, both of whom are deaf and need special schooling and medical care. One has cochlear implants which we see the doctors at Ormond Street hospital in London for. When I was travelling, we were moved on every day of the week from somewhere or other. I stopped travelling because I was unable to get the children the care they needed on the road. We were previously evicted from a site in Herefordshire.

My eldest daughter who is 11 years old has finished schooling at the Ghyll Grove primary school for deaf children. She went on to a local special needs secondary school and liked going to school very much until our names were released in the Basildon Echo and the other children found out she was a Traveller. After that she was bullied so much that I had to take her out of school and arrange for home schooling, which is still in the middle of being worked out. My youngest daughter, who is 7, still attends Ghyll Grove school. Her latest report showed good progress and she would like to attend Swain Park secondary school in Rayleigh.

We are in a rented caravan at the moment which we can't simply move as we please. Even moving from Dale Farm would be a great hardship on us since I think it would take 8 or 9 months to get the children settled in new schools. But if we were evicted with nowhere to settle, I just don't know what would become of myself and my children.



John (Bim) Flynn and Mary Flynn

We are both 72 years old. Mary has cancer, high blood pressure, liver problems and high cholesterol. She has to have blood checks every 6 weeks. She has dementia (alzheimers) and has to be with family at all times or she will become forgetful and wander off.

I (John) am a diabetic, among other health problems and walking is difficult for me. The doctors say I need two hip replacements but I am too old for the surgery.

We both have had experience of evictions and my wife still cries when she hears the children speak of it. I don't think we could handle being shifted or pulled off without warning and are too old to make it on the road. It would be devastating for us. If we had to separate from our family we wouldn't make it.

Jean O'Brien

My health is almost gone now. I have cancer, heart problems, thyroid problems, asthma, and am on pain killers. I take blood pressure medication and pain killers every morning and evening. I can't drive while on pain killers so I can't be on the road. I had a stroke a while back and ever since have had memory problems.

I rely on my two daughters to help me, but they have children of their own to take care of. I wouldn't make it on the road because I wouldn't be able to see the doctor regularly and I need the support network of my family to help when I am sick or have problems.

Nora Slattery, Nora Gore, William Gore

I (Nora S.) am the head of the household which includes Nora and William Gore. I am 56 and have lived in England most of my life. I have been seeing the same doctor in Grays for 9 years for spine problems which forces me to walk with a cane. I see the doctor at least once every two months and am on regular medication. If I was evicted to the roadside I wouldn't be able to receive regular medical care and I can't survive on the road with my health and mobility problems.

Nora is 26 and was born in England. She is diabetic and also pregnant. She sees two specialists regularly in Basildon Hospital and Orset? Hospital. She is also being treated for depression. She needs regular medical care because of the complications to her pregnancy caused by her diabetes. If she were evicted she would not be able to receive regular medical care for herself or her new baby without a permanent address.

William is 70 years old. He has heart problems, high blood pressure and severe arthritis. He had a heart attack 5 years ago. He regularly sees specialists in Basildon and Orset? Hospital. Due to his advanced age and associated health problems, he would have severe difficulty surviving if evicted.

Kathleen (Pearl) McCarthy age 47 husband Dan died 3 years ago

I am a widow with two dependant daughters. My youngest daughter is 13 and lives with me. My other daughter is engaged and lives with me when her fiancé is off working. I have two sons but they are off working and in any case aren't in a position to help us financially. Myself and my daughters rely on income support to get by. We wouldn't be able to get our income support if we were on the road.

daughter Margaret 22, Maryann 13 was ch <sup>born 2/2/95</sup>  
Bromfield Sec. L7 Pearl has asked for home tutor  
(nothing further for past year)

15 years in Essex

We have been at Dale Farm for about 6 years. My mother and father came to Dale Farm in hopes of having a better life than the one we had on the road. When I was younger I did field work and knocked on doors to ask people for cast off clothing to get by. Now I hope to go to florist school and have my own small shop to provide a better life for my daughters. If we were evicted on to the roadside none of that would be possible and we would have to start again with no men around to help support us.

✓ Maryann McCarthy

I am a 65 year old widow. I have one adult daughter that lives with me. Over my lifetime I have been evicted and moved on many times but not for the last 6 or 7 years at Dale Farm. I am in relatively good health myself. Me and my husband used our life savings to buy a large chalet (pre-fab house) so my husband could get around easier and be more comfortable in the last few years of his life. A chalet has no wheels and can't be towed. If I was evicted to the roadside I would lose my house and I don't know what we would do or how we would survive.

Has 16 grandchildren, 1 grandchild and other due (at time of writing - 2/4/08)

Dr. Brown in Grays is her GP

daughter Johann<sup>(35)</sup> suffers depression (Dr. Brown)